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LETTER DATED 29 OCTOBER 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge the strongest protest following the cowardly attack of a large terrorist group of the members of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) on a convoy of Serbian refugees, protected by KFOR, on the road from Orahovac, Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, to Montenegro. The attack took place near Pec on 27 October 1999 on which occasion a dozen civilians, including women, children and the elderly, were wounded and a number of vehicles burned.

In drawing your attention to this outrage, I would like to point out that the large number of terrorists, about 1,500 of them, and the fact that they had evidently been in possession of prior knowledge as to the exact place and time of the passage of the convoy, give a strong indication that once again they were in collusion with the United Nations presences. This all the more so as it was established upon injury check after the attack that four persons who had been under KFOR protection in a building in Pec were missing.

The responsibility for this latest atrocity lies squarely with the United Nations civil and security presences who persist in their refusal to carry out the mandate of ensuring a secure environment for all inhabitants in Kosovo and Metohija entrusted them by Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). The trail of responsibility leads also to the councils of the powers that, in their smug conceit, have taken it upon themselves to ensure security to a part of a sovereign State but have demonstrably failed to do so, as well as to the door of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. His responsibility becomes glaringly apparent against the backdrop of his public statements made only a day before this outrage to the effect that the situation in Kosovo and Metohija was stable and favourable for the Serbs. In addition to being patently inaccurate, such statements give cause to belief that the Special Representative uses KFOR and UNMIK resources contrary to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) which, in turn, results in the deterioration of the security situation of the ever smaller number of Serbs and their expulsion from their ancestral land.

On several occasions the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has brought to the attention of the Security Council and other international bodies and organizations the problem of about 4,000 Serbs, primarily women and children, under siege by KLA terrorists in Orahovac. Regrettably, that problem has not been solved as KFOR continues to turn a blind eye to an act of terror, the obvious aim of which is to cleanse this town of Serbs as well.

The public presence of a large number of armed Albanians in and around Orahovac and the attack on the convoy of Serbian refugees provide ample evidence that the terrorist KLA has not been disarmed. Going through the proceedings of the so-called "demilitarization" was but a publicity stunt, while the true goal has always been and remains the transformation of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army into legal and organized military structures meant to metamorphose, along the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina model of "train and equip", into a real army of ethnic Albanians.

The policy conducted by the United Nations presences in Kosovo and Metohija is bedeviled by double standards. Armed Albanian gangs are given free rein to carry out the most obnoxious outrages; the Serbs remaining in the few scattered enclaves, however, are "disciplined" by ruthless actions of KFOR and the United Nations international police as was the case during the recent removal of their barricades. To rectify this situation, to forestall other atrocities and to prevent the continued violation of the human rights of Serbs, Montenegrins and other non-Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, as well as to ensure full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and relevant documents, the Security Council is called upon to exercise its authority and establish responsibility for the worsening security situation in Kosovo and Metohija and take appropriate concrete measures.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.